

## **STANDARD NURSE PROTOCOL FOR CHILDHOOD AND ADULT IMMUNIZATIONS**

All Public Health locations that provide vaccine services will utilize the current edition of the Georgia Department of Public Health Immunization Program (GIP) Manual, which is developed based on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommendations and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases' (Pink Book), for administering vaccines to children and adults. The GIP Manual contains detailed standards for vaccine administration, mandatory use of Vaccine Information Statements (VIS), recommendations and forms specific to the childhood and adult immunization schedules, recommended screening questionnaires for identifying possible contraindications and precautions to vaccines, and requirements for entering all vaccines into the Georgia Registry for Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS). Go to <https://dph.georgia.gov/immunization-publications> for the GIP Manual.

Registered Professional Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) will administer vaccines in accordance with the current edition of the GIP Manual and in accordance with the Nurse Protocol statute (O.C.G.A. § 43-34-23). Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) will administer immunizations under the supervision of either an RN, APRN or physician, in accordance with the Georgia Practical Nurses Practice Act [O.C.G.A. § 43-26-32(7)].

**Training:** All RNs and APRNs must complete the required training for administration of vaccines, as delineated in the Georgia Department of Public Health, Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement for Public Health Nursing Practice Manual, which may be found at <http://dph.georgia.gov/resourceesformsmanuals>, before they may administer vaccines.

All LPNs must complete the required training for administration of vaccines, as delineated in Chapter 13 of the Georgia Department of Public Health Immunization Program (GIP) Manual. Go to <https://dph.georgia.gov/immunization-publications> for the GIP Manual.

All RNs, APRNs, and LPNs who administer vaccines will hold current certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS).

All RNs, APRNs and LPNs who administer vaccines should also follow the GIP Manual guidelines regarding asking the patient to wait at least 15 minutes in a designated area post-vaccination before they leave the clinic site.

All RNs, APRNs, and LPNs who administer vaccines will provide the patient with written confirmation of all vaccines administered. This may be in the form of a print-out of vaccines administered or an immunization card.

**Planning Mass Vaccinations:**

Nursing staff will work with district Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Strategic National Stockpile staff to develop campaigns within the framework of functional and/or full scale exercises that test current Medical Countermeasure (MCM) Dispensing Plans within the district. Exercises must include predetermined objectives, documented evaluation, and an After Action Report with an Improvement Plan.